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9 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

10 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

11 FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

12 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

13 Plaintiff,

14 v.

15 YANG SONG,
JUNWEI JIANG,
16 ZHENGXUAN HU,
YUSHAN LIN, and
17 SHUYI XING,

18 Defendants.

No. 2:24-CR-331-AB-5

GOVERNMENT'S APPLICATION PURSUANT
TO 18 U.S.C. § 3145(a)(1) FOR
REVIEW/RECONSIDERATION OF ORDER
SETTING CONDITIONS OF RELEASE OF
DEFENDANT SHUYI XING

19
20 Plaintiff United States of America, by and through its counsel
21 of record, the United States Attorney for the Central District of
22 California and Assistant United States Attorney Andrew M. Roach,
23 hereby files its Application Pursuant to § 3145(a)(1) for
24 Review/Reconsideration of Order Setting Conditions of Release of
25 Defendant Shuyi Xing (Dkt. 66).

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1 This application is based upon the attached memorandum of points
2 and authorities, the files and records in this case, and such further
3 evidence and argument as the Court may permit.

4 Dated: June 21, 2024

Respectfully submitted,

5 E. MARTIN ESTRADA
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9 /s/ Andrew M. Roach
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1 **MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES**

2 **I. INTRODUCTION**

3 Under 18 U.S.C. § 3142(f), a “judicial officer shall hold a
4 [detention] hearing . . . upon motion of the attorney for the
5 government . . . in a case that involves . . . a serious risk that
6 such person will flee.” 18 U.S.C. § 3142(f)(2)(A). No burden of
7 proof is imposed in the statute, nor is there a requirement for any
8 judicial finding, unlike other portions of the Bail Reform Act. The
9 court is required to hold a detention hearing when the government
10 moves for one based on its good-faith belief that the case involves
11 one of the statutory enumerated categories.

12 Notwithstanding the statute’s plain text, the magistrate judge
13 interpreted § 3142(f) to require the government to prove by a
14 preponderance of the evidence that defendant poses a “serious risk
15 that [he] will flee” under 18 U.S.C. § 3142(f)(2)(A) before the
16 government can even argue for detention in a detention hearing. In
17 essence, the court required a two-step inquiry where the government
18 must first prove by the preponderance of the evidence that there is a
19 “serious risk that [a defendant] will flee” under § 3142(f)(2)(A) to
20 even qualify for a detention hearing, a hearing in which the
21 government would then need to prove by the preponderance of the
22 evidence (again) that defendant posed a risk of nonappearance under
23 § 3142(e) in order to detain that defendant. If the government fails
24 to meet this first burden by a preponderance, then the government is
25 not entitled to even argue for detention.

26 In this case, by incorrectly imposing a standard of proof that
27 is found nowhere in the statute, the court held that “the government
28 [wa]s not entitled to a detention hearing” in the first place. (Dkt.

66 at 1.) As a result, the court did not consider the government's arguments for detention and the court ordered defendant Shuyi Xing be released on conditions pursuant to § 3142(a), (c).¹ The court's incorrect reading of § 3142(f) raises a serious question of law that necessitates this Court's review to clarify the law in this case and, potentially, throughout this District. Neither the statute nor Ninth Circuit caselaw requires the government to meet a preponderance-of-the-evidence standard in the first instance to merely hold a detention hearing under § 3142(f). (See Dkt. 66 at 8.) The court recognized this, but nonetheless imposed a new standard here. This was in error. Imposing such a standard simply creates a two-step detention hearing in which a court must first "hold[] a hearing to determine whether they need to hold a [detention] hearing," Dkt. 66 at 7. This serves no practical purpose other than delay, at the expense of a defendant who may remain in custody while the issue is decided.

Therefore, the government respectfully requests that the Court find that the government is entitled to a detention hearing based on its good-faith belief that defendant poses a serious risk that he will flee under § 3142(f)(2)(A). The Court should then either remand to the magistrate judge or itself determine whether detention is warranted because "no condition or combination of conditions will reasonably assure the appearance of [defendant] as required." 18 U.S.C. § 3142(e)(1). For the reasons explained below, the government can satisfy that standard here.

¹ Those condition were the (1) surrender of his passport, (2) a \$100,000 appearance bond secured by his residence in Corona, California, and (3) a host of other standard conditions. (Dkt. 66 at 16-22.)

1 **II. STATEMENT OF FACTS**

2 **A. The Conspiracy to Defraud Apple**

3 Defendant is charged with a years-long conspiracy to commit wire
4 fraud and mail fraud, aggravated identity theft, wire fraud, mail
5 fraud, and conspiracy to traffic in counterfeit goods for his role in
6 a \$12-million counterfeit device fraud against Apple. See Dkt. 1
7 (Indictment) at 6-26. The scheme involved defendant's co-
8 conspirators importing counterfeit Apple devices from China.
9 Defendant, and his co-conspirators, then returned these devices to
10 Apple stores, causing Apple to replace the devices with new devices.
11 Defendant and his co-conspirators would then ship these devices to
12 China and elsewhere.

13 **B. Defendant's Arrest and Detention Hearing**

14 Defendant was arrested on May 30, 2024, and had his initial
15 appearance on May 31, 2024. At the request of defense counsel, the
16 detention hearing was continued to June 3, 2024.

17 At the June 3, 2024 hearing, defendant challenged the
18 government's entitlement to a detention hearing on the ground that
19 the government had not established a serious risk that defendant will
20 flee to trigger a detention hearing under § 3142(f)(2)(A). The court
21 heard argument on both the issue of entitlement a detention hearing
22 and the issue of detention. See Dkt. 31, 38 (minutes of 71-minute
23 detention hearing). During the hearing the government called a
24 witness and presented three exhibits relating to a separate alleged
25 money laundering scheme that defendant was alleged to have
26 participated in. This evidence showed that approximately a year ago,
27 over a million dollars of suspected fraudulent wires were deposited
28

1 into defendant's bank accounts and then quickly wired to China, with
2 approximately \$400,000 left unaccounted.

3 The court took the matter under submission. On June 7, 2024,
4 the court issued its order denying detention and ordering defendant
5 released on the following conditions: (1) surrender of his passport,
6 (2) a \$100,000 appearance bond secured by his residence in Corona,
7 California, and (3) a host of other standard conditions. (Dkt. 66 at
8 16-22.) Relevant to this application for reconsideration, the court
9 held that the government was not entitled to a detention hearing in
10 the first instance because it had not demonstrated that defendant
11 posed "a serious risk that [he] will flee" under § 3142(f)(2)(A) by a
12 preponderance of the evidence. (Id. at 16.) The court thus did not
13 consider the substantive question of whether detention was warranted
14 under § 3142(e)(1). (Id.) Rather, it concluded that "the government
15 has not established that a detention hearing is warranted under
16 section 3142(f), and thus Defendant must be released on personal
17 recognizance, upon execution of an unsecured appearance bond, or
18 released on a condition or combination of conditions." (Id.)

19 **III. LEGAL STANDARDS**

20 Review of the magistrate judge's initial release order is de
21 novo. United States v. Koenig, 912 F.2d 1190, 1192 (9th Cir. 1990).
22 While the "district court is not required to start over . . . and
23 proceed as if the magistrate's decision and findings did not exist,"
24 the district court "should review the evidence before the magistrate
25 and make its own independent determination whether the magistrate's
26 findings are correct, with no deference." Id. at 1193.

1 **IV. ARGUMENT**

2 **A. There is No Burden of Proof to Trigger a Detention Hearing**
3 **Under § 3142(f)**

4 The Bail Reform Act of 1984 outlines when the government -- or a
5 court on its own motion -- can move for a detention hearing to
6 consider whether to detain a defendant. The statute permits
7 detention hearings in three instances, where the "case involves":
8 (1) certain dangerous crimes listed in § 3142(f)(1), (2) "a serious
9 risk that such person will flee," § 3142(f)(2)(A), or (3) a serious
10 risk that such person will obstruct or attempt to obstruct justice,
11 § 3142(f)(2)(B). Once a detention hearing is held, the court must
12 order detention if "the judicial officer finds that no condition or
13 combination of conditions will reasonably assure the appearance of
14 the person as required and the safety of any other person and the
15 community." 18 U.S.C. § 3142(e)(1). In this case, the magistrate
16 judge determined that the government was not even entitled to a
17 detention hearing and never analyzed the substantive question of
18 detention under § 3142(e)(1).

19 That was error because the plain text of § 3142(f) imposes no
20 burden of proof on the government to trigger a detention hearing in
21 any of these situations. This is a legal question of statutory
22 interpretation. As with all statutory interpretation, the Court
23 should first look to the statute. "We begin 'where all such
24 inquiries begin: with the language of the statute itself.'" Republic
25 of Sudan v. Harrison, 139 S. Ct. 1048, 1055 (2019) (quoting Caraco
26 Pharmaceutical Laboratories, Inc. v. Novo Nordisk A/S, 566 U.S. 399,
27 412 (2012)).

1 Section 3142(f) mandates that a “judicial officer **shall hold a**
2 **[detention] hearing . . . upon motion of the attorney for the**
3 **Government**” or, in addition to the cases under (f)(2), “upon the
4 judicial officer’s own motion.” § 3142(f)(2) (bold added). The use
5 of the word “shall” implies a mandatory act, “which normally creates
6 an obligation impervious to judicial discretion.” Lexecon Inc. v.
7 Milberg Weiss Bershad Hynes & Lerach, 523 U.S. 26, 27 (1998). In
8 other words, the statute’s use of the word “shall” requires that the
9 judicial officer hold the detention hearing upon motion of the
10 government without regard to any particular burden of proof.

11 There is good reason for not imposing a burden of proof to hold
12 a detention hearing. Congress mandated that the detention hearing
13 “shall be held immediately upon the person’s first appearance before
14 the judicial officer,” § 3142(f), unless a continuance is requested.
15 And in this District, detention hearings are ordinarily held the same
16 day as a defendant’s initial appearance in accordance with the
17 statute. Given that “[t]he decision whether to hold a hearing occurs
18 based on even less information than a decision to detain or release,”
19 it follows that the standard to invoke the detention hearing should
20 be much lower. United States v. Singleton, 182 F.3d 7, 12 (D.C. Cir.
21 1999). “[A] detention order is based on a hearing, while an order to
22 hold a hearing is based on a proffer of what the hearing might
23 establish.” Id.

24 Other parts of the statute confirm that no particular burden of
25 proof was imposed to hold a detention hearing. “[W]hen Congress
26 includes particular language in one section of a statute but omits it
27 in another section of the same Act, it is generally presumed that
28 Congress acts intentionally and purposely in the disparate inclusion

1 or exclusion.'" Collins v. Yellen, 141 S. Ct. 1761, 1782 (2021)
2 (quoting Barnhart v. Sigmon Coal Co., 534 U.S. 438, 452 (2002)).
3 Here, unlike other provisions of § 3142, subsection (f) imposes no
4 particular requirement of a judicial finding or determination to hold
5 a detention hearing. This is in stark contrast to the other
6 subsections of § 3142 that specifically provide that a judge must
7 exercise discretion and "find[]" or "determine" defendant's release
8 or detention, including a defendant's release on conditions under
9 § 3142(c) ("If the judicial officer determines that . . ."),
10 temporary detention under § 3142(d) ("If the judicial officer
11 determines that . . ."), or detention under § 3142(e) ("the judicial
12 officer finds").

13 The notable exception is subsection (f); it imposes no
14 requirement of judicial finding or a judicial determination to
15 trigger a detention hearing. In fact, the only references to
16 judicial findings in subsection (f) address findings to support
17 detention on the grounds that defendant poses a danger to the
18 community -- which must be supported by "clear and convincing
19 evidence" -- or the finding required to reopen a detention hearing.
20 § 3142(f). None of these are related to the burden of proof to hold
21 a detention hearing in the first place, and this is no accident. See
22 Collins, 141 S. Ct. at 1782. Had Congress desired to impose a burden
23 on the government, let alone a heightened one, or require judicial
24 findings to trigger a detention hearing in the first place, as the
25 magistrate judge interpreted the statute to require, Congress would
26 have said so, as it has done in many other circumstances. See, e.g.,
27 Fed. R. Crim. P. 5.1 (requiring magistrate judge to "find[] probable
28 cause" during a preliminary hearing).

1 The Ninth Circuit's statutory interpretation of the Bail Reform
2 Act in United States v. Motamedi, 767 F.2d 1403, 1406 (9th Cir. 1985)
3 is instructive. There, the court held that the appropriate burden of
4 proof for detention based on a defendant's risk of nonappearance was
5 a preponderance of the evidence rather than clear and convincing.
6 Id. at 1406. In finding that Congress must have intended that the
7 risk of nonappearance be governed by a different burden of proof than
8 the statute's "clear and convincing" standard for when a defendant
9 poses a danger to the community, the court looked to another section
10 of the Bail Reform Act, § 3143(a), where "Congress expressly required
11 the defendant to negate both danger to the community and flight risk
12 by clear and convincing evidence." Id. Since Congress knew how to
13 draft the statute to achieve its desired result, and require both
14 there, the court determined "it would have so provided" in § 3142 if
15 "Congress desired to achieve a similar result." Id. The fact that
16 it did not was telling: "We must presume that Congress acts with
17 deliberation, rather than by inadvertence, when it drafts a statute."
18 Id.

19 Here, the text of § 3142 provides strong evidence that Congress
20 knew how to impose both a requirement that the judicial officer make
21 specific findings regarding a defendant's release or detention, see,
22 e.g., § 3142(b), (c), and (e), and the appropriate burden of proof
23 for those findings, in the case of detention based on danger to the
24 community, see § 3142(f). Despite knowing this, Congress imposed no
25 requirement with respect to the government's showing to trigger a
26 detention hearing. "The most plausible interpretation for this
27 statutory pattern is that Congress intended the two inquiries to be
28 governed by different standards." Motamedi, 767 F.2d at 1406. This

1 provides strong indication that Congress intended no particular
2 burden on the government to trigger a detention hearing to argue for
3 detention.

4 **B. The Government is Entitled to a Detention Hearing Based on**
5 **Its Good-Faith Belief that a § 3142(f) Category is Met**

6 Given that the statute imposes no particular burden of proof,
7 the question is what standard, if any, entitles the government to a
8 detention hearing. The answer is, and other courts have found, that
9 “the government or Court need only express their belief” that a valid
10 grounds under § 3142(f) exists for a detention hearing. United
11 States v. White, No. 4:18-mj-71386-MAG, 2018 WL 5291989, at *4 (N.D.
12 Cal. Oct. 19, 2018); see also United States v. Powers, 318 F. Supp.
13 2d 339, 341 (W.D. Va. 2004) (explaining that the standard to trigger
14 a detention hearing occurs when the “United States or the
15 court believes there is a serious risk of flight”). The good-faith
16 belief requirement is appropriate here because “[e]very lawyer has an
17 obligation to file pleadings only in a good-faith belief that valid
18 grounds exist for the relief sought” and this “obligation . . .
19 should weigh heavily with those exercising the power of public
20 prosecution.” United States v. Melendez-Carrion, 790 F.2d 984, 993
21 (2d Cir. 1986) (citing United States v. Berger, 295 U.S. 78, 88
22 (1935)).

23 The magistrate judge, however, rejected the government’s
24 reasoned arguments that it need only have a good-faith belief to
25 trigger a detention hearing under § 3142(f). Relying more on a
26 competing body of caselaw rather than the text of the statute or the
27 sound policy reasons behind it, the magistrate judge accepted other
28 courts’ interpretation that § 3142(f) “require[s] a finding of

1 'serious risk of flight' be supported by a preponderance of the
2 evidence" to hold a detention hearing. (Dkt. 66 at 4.) But the
3 caselaw relied upon ignores the plain text of the statute and simply
4 assumes that because a judge must make a finding about detention
5 under § 3142(e)(1) based on a defendant's risk of nonappearance by a
6 preponderance of the evidence, that a judge must also make a finding
7 about whether to hold a detention hearing under § 3142(f)(2)(A) based
8 on a serious risk that a defendant will flee by a preponderance of
9 the evidence also. The statute does not support that interpretation.

10 Here, the magistrate judge primarily relied on United States v.
11 Friedman, 837 F.2d 48, 49 (2d Cir. 1988), to support her position
12 that there is a two-step inquiry under §§ 3142(f) and 3142(g) to
13 determine whether a detention hearing is first permitted and then
14 ultimately detention. In Friedman, the Second Circuit stated:

15 After a motion for detention has been filed, the district court
16 must undertake a two-step inquiry. See United States v. Shakur,
17 817 F.2d 189, 194 (2d Cir. 1987). It must first determine by a
18 preponderance of the evidence, see United States v. Jackson, 823
19 F.2d 4, 5 (2d Cir. 1987), that the defendant either has been
20 charged with one of the crimes enumerated in Section 3142(f)(1)
21 or that the defendant presents a risk of flight or obstruction
22 of justice. Once this determination has been made, the court
23 turns to whether any condition or combinations of conditions of
24 release will protect the safety of the community and reasonably
25 assure the defendant's appearance at trial. United States v.
26 Berrios-Berrios, 791 F.2d 246, 250 (2d Cir.), cert. dismissed,
27 479 U.S. 978, 107 S.Ct. 562, 93 L.Ed.2d 568 (1986).

28 Friedman, 837 F.2d at 49.

1 But Friedman is not persuasive. Friedman relies on Jackson,
2 which extended the preponderance-of-the-evidence burden to detain a
3 defendant for risk of nonappearance under § 3142(e) to the standard
4 for showing a serious risk that person will flee to trigger a
5 detention hearing under § 3142(f) without any analysis whatsoever.
6 See Jackson, 823 F.2d at 5 ("To order detention, the court must find
7 by a preponderance of the evidence that the defendant presents a risk
8 of flight, and, if it finds such a risk, that no conditions could
9 reasonably assure the defendant's presence at trial."). It did not
10 seriously engage in any statutory interpretation or consider the
11 alternatives. Nor does the issue even appear to have been litigated
12 by the parties. Accordingly, Friedman's authority on this issue is
13 questionable. See Cooper Indus., Inc. v. Aviall Servs., Inc., 543
14 U.S. 157, 170 (2004) ("Questions which merely lurk in the record,
15 neither brought to the attention of the court nor ruled upon, are not
16 to be considered as having been so decided as to constitute
17 precedents.").²

18 More importantly, other courts have disagreed with Friedman and
19 the proposed two-step process. Indeed, even the Second Circuit
20 itself suggested that the government is entitled to a detention
21 hearing as long as it has a "good-faith belief" that it can meet the
22

23
24 ² The majority of the caselaw cited in the release order suffers
25 from these same issues, see Dkt. 66 at 4-5: (1) they conflate the
26 standards of preponderance of the evidence for risk of nonappearance
27 to detain a defendant under § 3142(e) with the standard of a serious
28 risk the defendant will flee to trigger a detention hearing under
§ 3142(f); (2) they rely on the limited analysis in Friedman; and
(3) they do not seriously engage with the text of the statute. They
all assume the standard to trigger a detention hearing is a
preponderance of the evidence. Therefore, while somewhat more
numerous, the government does not view these cases as particularly
insightful to this question of statutory interpretation.

1 standard in 18 U.S.C. § 3142(f)(2). Melendez-Carrion, 790 F.2d 984,
2 993 (2d Cir. 1986) (“The requisite ‘grounds’ for a detention motion
3 should include specification of flight, dangerousness, or both,
4 depending on the prosecutor’s good-faith belief in the grounds that
5 can be established.”). And the Eighth Circuit has also expressly
6 rejected the court’s proposed two-step approach here: “While we agree
7 the government has the burden to show that the case ‘involves’ one of
8 the circumstances defined in § 3142(f)(1) or (2), we have never held
9 that a detention order may not be entered unless the judicial officer
10 conducts the rigid ‘two-step inquiry’ urged by [defendant].” United
11 States v. Cook, 87 F.4th 920, 924 (8th Cir. 2023). There are good
12 reasons to reject this two-step inquiry, as explained in Cook,
13 because “pretrial detention is an issue that should be resolved at
14 the outset of the criminal case . . . [and] [d]elay either keeps a
15 person in post-arrest detention that may be unnecessary, or keeps a
16 person who should be detained prior to trial at large in the
17 community.” Id. Moreover, “[r]equiring the judicial officer to
18 conduct a § 3142(f)(2)(A) hearing and then a second § 3142(e)(1)
19 hearing is . . . both a waste of judicial resources and contrary to
20 the Bail Reform Act’s purposes” because “the two inquiries, while not
21 identical, substantially overlap.” Id. at 924 (emphasis omitted).

22 The court’s release order recognized some of these issues,
23 including the conundrum that requiring the government to show that a
24 serious risk that a person will flee under § 3142(f)(2)(A) by a
25 preponderance of the evidence would subsume the same analysis of
26 whether the person posed a risk of nonappearance by a preponderance
27 of the evidence under § 3142(e), and potentially clash with the canon
28 against surplusage. See Dkt. 66 at 7. Despite recognizing this, the

1 magistrate judge was concerned that “[i]f government need not make
2 any affirmative showing at all, the gatekeeping provisions of section
3 3142(f) would be rendered essentially meaningless” when “Congress
4 obviously intended to limit the circumstances where a detention
5 hearing is warranted.” Id. But “‘vague notions of a statute’s
6 ‘basic purpose’ are . . . inadequate to overcome the words of its
7 text regarding the specific issue under consideration.’” Montanile
8 v. Board of Trs. of Nat’l Elevator Indus. Health Benefit Plan, 577
9 U.S. 136, 150 (2016) (quoting Mertens v. Hewitt Assocs., 508 U.S.
10 248, 261 (1993)). And here the statute’s text mandates the judicial
11 officer hold such a hearing “upon motion of the attorney for the
12 government.” § 3142(f)(2)(A). The courts, of course, still maintain
13 the ultimate check on the government’s power to decide if detention
14 is warranted. But there is no reason why Congress could not give
15 this gatekeeping role to the government in the first instance.

16 The government recognizes that some courts have expressed
17 concern that § 3142(f)’s gatekeeping provisions may be rendered
18 meaningless if a judge is required to hold a detention hearing
19 whenever the government moves because the government “basically need
20 only check a box to trigger a detention hearing.” See Dkt. 66 at 7;
21 see also United States v. Subil, No. 2:23-CR-00030-TL, 2023 WL
22 3866709, at *4 (W.D. Wash. June 7, 2023) (motion for detention
23 “appears to be nothing more than a routine form consisting of blank
24 spots to be marked next to conclusory recitations of statutory text
25 that merely list the § 3142(f) categories”). But that is precisely
26 what the statute demands. It is not for the courts to second guess
27 the statute that Congress wrote. “The place to make new legislation,
28 or address unwanted consequences of old legislation, lies in

1 Congress. . . . And the same judicial humility that requires [courts]
2 to refrain from adding to statutes requires [courts] to refrain from
3 diminishing them.” Bostock v. Clayton County, 140 S. Ct. 1731, 1753
4 (2020). And as explained by the Second Circuit, it is unreasonable
5 to assume that the government will simply assert that there is a
6 “serious risk of flight” in every single case. See Melendez-Carrion,
7 790 F.2d at 993. Again, “[e]very lawyer has an obligation to file
8 pleadings only in a good-faith belief that valid grounds exist for
9 the relief sought,” and the government understands the importance of
10 that obligation in the context of detention decisions. Id.

11 Finally, it is worth noting the consequences of holding the
12 government to a preponderance-of-the-evidence burden to trigger a
13 detention hearing. Holding the government to a higher burden at the
14 beginning would only cause delay. Congress mandated the detention
15 hearing shall ordinarily “be held immediately upon the person’s first
16 appearance before the judicial officer.” § 3142(f). If the
17 government was held to a higher burden, then the government would
18 routinely exercise its statutory right to a three-day continuance,
19 while the government prepared to meet its heavy burden. See United
20 States v. Dominguez, 783 F.2d 702, 704 (7th Cir. 1986) (noting that
21 “the legislative history [of the Bail Reform Act] does suggest that
22 the automatic continuances are available to facilitate preparation
23 for a detention hearing”). This delay may keep a person detained
24 unnecessarily, all in order to meet a heightened burden that the
25 statute does not impose.

26 In short, the plain text of § 3142(f) does not impose the
27 heightened standard that the court imposed. For good reason. The text
28 and rationale behind § 3142 show that Congress intended a bar, albeit

1 a low one, before the government can argue for detention. That bar
2 is met when the government has a good-faith basis to believe that one
3 of the categories of § 3142(f) is met. The court erred in holding
4 that the government must prove a serious risk that the person will
5 flee by a preponderance in order to even argue that defendant poses a
6 risk of nonappearance. Therefore, the government respectfully
7 request this Court to consider the issue de novo and find that the
8 government's burden to trigger a detention hearing under
9 § 3142(f)(2)(A) is its good-faith belief that a defendant poses a
10 serious risk that he will flee.

11 **C. The Court Should Find a Detention Hearing is Warranted**
12 **Based on the Government's Motion and Order Defendant**
13 **Detained**

14 Because the government has a good-faith belief that defendant
15 poses a serious risk that he will flee, the government was entitled
16 to a detention hearing in this case under § 3142(f)(2)(A). The Court
17 should either remand to the magistrate judge to hold this hearing or
18 itself determine whether detention is warranted because "no condition
19 or combination of conditions will reasonably assure the appearance of
20 [defendant] as required." 18 U.S.C. § 3142(e)(1). Notably, the
21 magistrate judge's conclusion that there is not a "serious risk of
22 flight" does not foreclose a finding that detention is warranted due
23 to the risk of nonappearance. That is because, in the magistrate
24 judge's view, the "risk of flight" discussed in § 3142(f)(2)(A) "is
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1 narrower" than the "risk of nonappearance" that determines whether
2 detention is appropriate. (Dkt. 66 at 8.)³

3 In this case, the record established that defendant is a foreign
4 national with significant ties to China, including co-conspirators
5 and family members living there as well as a history of sending large
6 wire payments to China, as evidenced by the exhibit proffered at the
7 detention hearing. Within the past year and half, defendant's bank
8 accounts received over a million dollars in suspicious and suspected
9 fraudulent wires, which we believed to have been defrauded from
10 elderly victims throughout the United States. Indeed, Exhibit Six
11 involved a police report from a Louisiana victim who was defrauded
12 into sending money into a bank account that defendant controlled.
13 Much of the money that defendant's accounts received went to China,
14 but hundreds of thousands of dollars remained unaccounted.

15 Defendant is now charged with serious crimes and is alleged to
16 have committed serious other ones, e.g., money laundering of wire
17 fraud proceeds. This alone shows that defendant has motive (to avoid
18 significant jail time) and means (hundreds of thousands of dollars)
19 to flee if he so chooses and is provided the opportunity. Beyond
20 that, there is the question of defendant's character and
21 trustworthiness to U.S. Pretrial Services and the court. Defendant's
22 disclosures to U.S. Pretrial Services raise many questions.
23 Defendant's reported work history omitted a purported real estate
24 company in his name, one that he reported made significant money on
25 bank applications. He also failed to disclose bank accounts which
26

27 ³ That conclusion itself is another reason why the magistrate
28 judge's interpretation of § 3142(f)(2)(A) cannot be correct. In the
magistrate judge's view, the government must meet a higher standard
to obtain a detention hearing than to actually obtain detention.

1 received significant sums of suspected fraudulent proceeds. That
2 defendant failed to disclose this to U.S. Pretrial Services shows a
3 lack of candor with respect to his finances and employment, and is
4 further evidence of a serious risk of flight. Finally, a large
5 amount of cash (\$160,000) was found in the home that he shared with
6 co-conspirators. This is an example of the unaccounted-for cash that
7 gives defendant the means to flee if given the opportunity.

8 The totality of these circumstances demonstrates that "no
9 condition or combination of conditions will reasonably assure the
10 appearance of [defendant] as required." 18 U.S.C. § 3142(e)(1). At
11 a minimum, the government is entitled to a detention hearing under
12 § 3142(f)(2)(A) -- before the magistrate judge or this Court -- in
13 which it should have the opportunity to make this showing.

14 **V. CONCLUSION**

15 For the foregoing reasons, this Court should conclude that the
16 government is entitled to a detention hearing under § 3142(f)(2)(A)
17 and either remand to the magistrate judge or itself analyze whether
18 detention is appropriate.

19
20 Dated: June 21, 2024

Respectfully submitted,

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